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"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

No. Cion doc.: 6884/15 VISA 56 COMEM 48 + ADD 1(COM(2015) 91 final)
6945/15 VISA 68 COMEM 49 (COM(2015) 103 final)

Subject: a) Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Agreement between the European Union and the United Arab Emirates on the short-stay visa waiver
- Adoption
b) Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the United Arab Emirates on the short-stay visa waiver
- Request by the Council for the consent of the European Parliament

1. On 5 March 2015, the Commission submitted a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Agreement between the European Union and the United Arab Emirates on the short-stay visa waiver¹, together with the draft text of the said Agreement in the annex to that proposal², and a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the same Agreement³.

¹ 6884/15 VISA 56 COMEM 48

² 6884/15 ADD 1 VISA 56 COMEM 48

³ 6945/15 VISA 68 COMEM 49 (COM(2015) 103 final).

2. Following the presentation of the proposals by the Commission at the Visa Working Party on 4 March 2015, delegations were invited on 10 March 2015 to send by e-mail the comments they might have on the text of the proposal on the signing by 18 March 2015. Since no comments were expressed by delegations, the Presidency sent, as agreed, the text of the proposals and of the agreement to the Directorate for Quality of Legislation for their legal and linguistic finalisation with a view to their swift adoption by the Council.
3. This Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which the United Kingdom does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2000/365/EC of 29 May 2000¹; the United Kingdom is therefore not taking part in its adoption and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
4. This Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which Ireland does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2002/192/EC of 28 February 2002²; Ireland is therefore not taking part in its adoption and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
5. The Decision on the signing and the text of the Agreement have been edited by the Legal-Linguistic experts. The edited texts are set out respectively in 7099/15 VISA 82 COMEM 53 and 7103/15 VISA 83 COMEM 54.
6. The Decision on the conclusion has also been edited by the Legal-Linguistic experts. The edited text is set out in 7185/15 VISA 104 COMEM 55.
7. Since the agreement is due to be provisionally applicable from the date set for its signature, the Presidency will subsequently notify as soon as possible to Member States the date set for the signature.

¹ OJ L 131, 1.6.2000, p. 43.

² OJ L 64, 7.3.2002, p. 20.

8. The Permanent Representatives Committee is accordingly invited to recommend that the Council:

- a) adopt, as an "A" item of the agenda of one of its forthcoming sessions, the Decision on the signing as set out in 7099/15 VISA 82 COMEM 53;
- b) decide to forward the draft Decision on conclusion as set out in 7185/15 VISA 104 COMEM 55 to the European Parliament for its consent once the Agreement has been duly signed.

The Decision on the signing together with the text of the Agreement will be published in the OJ in accordance with the applicable rules.
